

Date: Sat, 25 Sep 93 04:30:18 PDT
From: Ham-Equip Mailing List and Newsgroup <ham-equip@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Ham-Equip-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Ham-Equip@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Ham-Equip Digest V93 #52
To: Ham-Equip

Ham-Equip Digest Sat, 25 Sep 93 Volume 93 : Issue 52

Today's Topics:

 Advice on a Few Radios and 2m HT questions
 Best key??? (2 msgs)
 help on GPS (2 msgs)
 icom 2SRA
 Kenwood th27 mods?
 Looking for mods for HTX-202
 Losses in VHF/UHF connectors (summary)
 Packet connections for DJ-580
 Review on RG174 WANTED (4 msgs)
 Standard C550/C558A mods/help needed

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Ham-Equip@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Ham-Equip-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Ham-Equip Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/ham-equip".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Tue, 21 Sep 93 22:52:44 CDT
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!sdd.hp.com!saimiri.primate.wisc.edu!caen!
kuhub.cc.ukans.edu!parsifal.umkc.edu!UMSLVMA.UMSL.EDU!S944148@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Advice on a Few Radios and 2m HT questions
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

***> The following post will not take 66 lines of text explaining why
***> not to waste bandwidth... instead it will offer constructive
***> information on forum well endowed with bandwidth.

I myself am looking around for what kind of HT to purchase and have
done some research on the matter. Here's what I've considered...

1st: Find where the action is in your area. This will help you decide if you should go with a 2m, dual-bander, etc. Check the ARRL Repeater directory...

2nd: Consider what you'll be doing with it. Autopatch? You may want things like autodial and DTMF encode/decode. If you travel a lot you might also want sometime that can DEcode CTCSS tones.

3rd: I would suggest you get a radio with CTCSS (sub-audible squelch) capability, DTMF dial capability, and external mic connections (most have this).

4th: Receiving capabilities. I -DEFINATELY- want a radio that has 'broad-band' receive. The Kenwood TH78A (my choice I think) can receive 118-174 MHz and something like 400-512MHz. It has 40 channels (expandable) that can be programmed to act as a scanner of sorts. In addition I know that the Alinco DJ580 can do this. For that matter most of the newer ones have that capability. You can ask the manufacturer for details about that.

Right now it's a toss-up for me between the DJ580 and TH78A. If anyone would like to share any specific comments on either I'd like to hear about it.

Don't be afraid to ask questions... that's what this is for, right? Perhaps read the existing messages first and you may find your answer. If not, ask!

Tom

Date: Fri, 24 Sep 1993 12:38:09 GMT
From: news.cerf.net!pagesat!spssig.spss.com!feenix.metronet.com!
marchbg@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Best key???
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

Here's something I don't seem to have seen discussed (and given the current "codeless" mania, we understand why):

What's the best key, or your favorite key? I'm using a Vibroplex bug right now which I'm not very happy with.

--

Marc B. Grant, N5MEI | marchbg@metronet.com | 214/231-3998 (voice)
P.O Box 850472 | marchbg@esy.com | 214/231-0025 (fax)

Richardson, TX 75085 |
"A billion here, a billion there, it starts to add up to real money" - HL Hunt

Date: 24 Sep 93 15:21:39 GMT
From: ogicse!hp-cv!sdd.hp.com!apollo.hp.com!hpwin052!hpqmoea!
dstock@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Best key???
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

The results of a survey could be interesting;

My favourites:

Kent twin paddle, my usual weapon. (Jones paddles look good)

RAF type "D" straight key, platinum contacts. (Big problem is remembering not to describe it as "the bomber command ground station key" on the air) You can stuff a ha'penny under bottom contact to adjust the "feel".

I like the "Swedish" key, I must look out for one.

Cheers

David GM4ZNX

Date: Fri, 24 Sep 1993 15:25:15 GMT
From: news.service.uci.edu!unogate!stgprao@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: help on GPS
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

In article <5895@eagle.ukc.ac.uk> eesr@ukc.ac.uk (E.E.S.Ruiz) writes:

>
> A friend of mine is doing some basic research
> to find out what is a GPS (Global Positioning
> System) and how it works.
>

There is a fantastic resource out there called a library for basic questions like these. There are several books on the topic. It has been written up many times in the popular science magazines (periodical guide to the literature).

(P.S. This is the 3rd posting on I-am-too-lazy-to-do-the-research-myself-so-lets-pester-the-net I've seen today. Usually doesn't happen until end of term deadlines.)

Date: 24 Sep 93 15:22:36
From: library.ucla.edu!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!pipex!uknet!ukc!
eagle.ukc.ac.uk!eesr@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: help on GPS
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

A friend of mine is doing some basic research to find out what is a GPS (Global Positioning System) and how it works.

Any help would be appreciated.

Thanks
Evandro

ps: please, reply direct to me so I can
organize the answers and post it back.

Date: 24 SEP 93 02:54:42 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!newsserver.jvnc.net!
castor.hahnemann.edu!hal.hahnemann.edu!silverbergm@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: icom 2SRA
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

Hello,

I am writing to inquire about the Icom 2RSA. I am looking for a handheld amateur radio that also scans. I do not yet have license, but plan on getting one as soon as I buy a radio.

The 2RSA seems to have what I want: a continuous coverage scanner and a two meter amateur.

Please take a second to send me some info. I am excited to get a license and get started.

Larry

Live from Hahnemann University in Center City, Philadelphia,

It's the man that put the 'A' in "INTELEGENCE"

Silverbergm@hal.hahnemann.edu A.K.A. FootDoc

Date: 24 Sep 93 02:24:57 GMT
From: destroyer!vela.acs.oakland.edu!vela.acs.oakland.edu!swood@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Kenwood th27 mods?
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

I found a file on the net that showed some mods for a th27a to allow out of band tx/rx, but the file claims that the aircraft portion will be lost. My brother is a police officer and a ham and owns a 27 and is interested in upping his rig to tx on his work frequency.

If anyone has any suggestions, please pass them on

swood

WQ8B

--
Sept. 24 Deadline for submitting Michigan Antlerless deer applications
Sept. 26 Opening day of Goose season (Upper Peninsula of Michigan)
(canada, blue, snow, whitefront, ross and brandt w/stamp)
Sept. 29 Closing day of early Michigan Elk seasons (permit only - see guide)

Date: 24 Sep 1993 12:16:40 -0400
From: library.ucla.edu!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!howland.reston.ans.net!noc.near.net!news.delphi.com!news.delphi.com!not-for-mail@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Looking for mods for HTX-202
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

bodoh@dgg.cr.usgs.gov (Tom Bodoh) writes:

>In article <CDsHD1.KJD@zimmer.CSUFresno.EDU>, stevem@zimmer.CSUFresno.EDU (Steve Mitchell) writes:

>|>

>|> Does anybody know if there is a mods list for the HTX-202?

>|> I'm interested in extending the rx range..

>|>

>|> I remember a discussion regarding this a while back, but never

>|> saved it..

>|>

>Contrary to rumours (around April 1) there are no mods for extending the
>TX or RX on the 202. Someone posted one, but don't try it, it was a joke
>of sorts. Apparently the HTX-202 is a good performer partially because
>it has no circuitry for wide coverage...

I'll second the motion. :-) The HTX-202 has one of the best front-ends
in the industry and is not prone to intermod like some other HTs -- and
mobile rigs. A good example is the Alinco DR-600T -- a nice dual-band
mobile with cross-band repeater built in. Unfortunately I discovered
that it receives the locals talking on the 146.940 repeater crystal clear.
What's so bad with this? I was trying to have a discussion on the 147.180
repeater. :-(

I've also heard some Kenwood HTs become fairly decent white-noise generators
in the downtown area. :-)

-- Greg KE4DPX

Date: Thu, 23 Sep 1993 23:50:09 GMT
From: pa.dec.com!e2big.mko.dec.com!regent.enet.dec.com!gettys@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Losses in VHF/UHF connectors (summary)
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

Actually, The so called UHF connector is properly named.
You must remember that it was named when UHF was up to about 30 Megacycles
(now known as 30 Mhz)! So 30 Mhz as the UPPER end of UHF is entirely
reasonable.

As UHF is now defined, it is UNreasonable. Up to 2 meters, the
UHF connector is marginally acceptable (although 6 meters is a better cutoff
point). For anything above this, an N connector is the way to go (and even
on 2 meters, if possible - but match the connector to the equipment's
connector).

/s/ Bob N1BRM

Date: Thu, 23 Sep 1993 22:57:31 GMT
From: swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!math.ohio-state.edu!magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu!csn!
qwerty-gw.fsl.noaa.gov!quent@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Packet connections for DJ-580
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

nordberg@jaguar.uofs.edu (Kevin Nordberg) writes:

>Can anyone tell me either where to find sub-mini (2.5mm) stereo audio plugs
>so I can wire my Alinco DJ-580 for packet or who sells harnesses for it. My
>distributor sent me one for Yaesus which has the wrong pin configuration and
>not enough conductors in the cable.

I found them at Radio Shack.

>Also will I need to install a resistor in the PTT line and a capacitor in the
>Mic audio line?

Yup, I ended up doing that with my KPC-3 TNC.
It seems to work well -- the other night with 5 watts on a copper
J-pole I connected to MIR!

--

Quent Johnson	Internet:	quent@md.fsl.noaa.gov
NOAA Forecast Systems Laboratory	On the air:	NOWCH
Modernization Division /\~/\^\^\^\~/	Boulder, Colorado	

Date: 24 Sep 93 14:21:05 GMT
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!linac!att!cbnews!hellman@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Review on RG174 WANTED
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

>
> I am interested in getting some thin coax to run into a homebrew
> twin-lead j-pole, and I was considering using RG 174 at about 50'.
>
> Anyone have any reviews on this coax or its use?
>
> swood - WQ8B

50 feet of RG 174U at 2 mtrs would have about 6db loss. In other words,
if your transmitter put out 10 watts, only 2.5 would reach the antenna.
If you used RG 58 in the same case your antenna would get 5 watts. (3 db loss).
(Hint: use less coax or use RG 8).
Shel WA2UBK dara@physics.att.com

Date: 23 Sep 93 20:39:41 GMT

From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!spool.mu.edu!caen!destroyer!
vela.acs.oakland.edu!vela.acs.oakland.edu!swood@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Review on RG174 WANTED
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

I am interested in getting some thin coax to run into a homebrew
twin-lead j-pole, and I was considering using RG 174 at about 50'.

Anyone have any reviews on this coax or its use?

swood - WQ8B

--

Sept. 24 Deadline for submitting Michigan Antlerless deer applications
Sept. 26 Opening day of Goose season (Upper Peninsula of Michigan)
(canada, blue, snow, whitefront, ross and brandt w/stamp)
Sept. 29 Closing day of early Michigan Elk seasons (permit only - see guide)

Date: Fri, 24 Sep 1993 02:49:14 GMT
From: elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!utnut!nott!cunews!news@ames.arpa
Subject: Review on RG174 WANTED
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

In article <swood.748816781@vela.acs.oakland.edu> swood@vela.acs.oakland.edu
(Scott Wood) writes:

>
>I am interested in getting some thin coax to run into a homebrew
>twin-lead j-pole, and I was considering using RG 174 at about 50'.
>
>Anyone have any reviews on this coax or its use?
>
>swood - WQ8B
>

I'll assume you mean a 2 meter jpole. The chart I have doesn't go up to 144mhz
for rg174 - it's too lossy. Extrapolating though, I would guess that 50 feet
would give you on the order of 10db loss at 2 meters. I'd go for something
better, if you can tolerate a larger diameter coax.

Dave

--

Dave Perry | Any opinions stated here are mine
dp@hydra.carleton.ca | and have nothing to do with Carleton University
ve3ifb@ve3jf.#eon.on.noam |

Date: 24 Sep 93 16:11:52 GMT
From: library.ucla.edu!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-
state.edu!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!destroyer!vela.acs.oakland.edu!
vela.acs.oakland.edu!swood@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Review on RG174 WANTED
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

hellman@cbnewsm.cb.att.com (eric.s.hellman) writes:

```
`>  
> I am interested in getting some thin coax to run into a homebrew  
> twin-lead j-pole, and I was considering using RG 174 at about 50'.  
>  
> Anyone have any reviews on this coax or its use?  
>  
> swood - WQ8B  
  
> 50 feet of RG 174U at 2 mtrs would have about 6db loss. In other words,  
> if your transmitter put out 10 watts, only 2.5 would reach the antenna.  
> If you used RG 58 in the same case your antenna would get 5 watts. (3 db loss).  
> (Hint: use less coax or use RG 8).  
> Shel WA2UBK  dara@physics.att.com
```

Perhaps I should have added that I have a need for low weight. This project is meant for portable operation hanging the antenna off of a kite. Or at least off of the kite's string. Looks as though I will have to get out my E.R.P. equations to find out if the height is worth it.

Perhaps another question, when running this type of setup where the feedline - though lossy - is vertically strung with nothing around it to interfere, would that loss be demonstrated as heat or would some be in the form of dissipated signal? i.e. could I be careful with feedline length and actually get some use out of loss that would help such an antenna.

thanks in advance.

swood

--

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 (canada, blue, snow, whitefront, ross and brandt w/stamp)
Sept. 29 Closing day of early Michigan Elk seasons (permit only - see guide)

Date: Fri, 24 Sep 1993 06:05:36 GMT
From: swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!
library.ucla.edu!news.mic.ucla.edu!unixg.ubc.ca!unixg.ubc.ca!nntp.cs.ubc.ca!
newsserver.sfu.ca!sfu.ca!tpang@
Subject: Standard C550/C558A mods/help needed
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

My friend just picked up a Standard C550 dualband HT for me during his trip to Hong Kong recently. The C550 is the Japanese model of the C558A in North America. All Japanese HTs lack NiCd packs and chargers of all brands, but cheaper. All the recent years of Japanese models are internally almost the same as the export models, and are thus modifiable to operate in duplex etc. (since repeaters are not permitted in 2m in Japan, last I know.)

Now my questions:

I have downloaded the C558.mod file from nic.funet.fi ftp site. The author said a diode 1SS301 is needed for the wide band transmit mod. Where is that diode available, and how much? I don't actually need this mod as bad as the wide RX mod. So.

If anyone has the wide RX mod, please e-mail/post, since that is not in the above file, and since I haven't picked up my radio from my friend yet, I don't know if it is already modified or not.

My friend told me that it might not come with even a belt clip (yes, some radios do, and some don't, from Japan.) The Ham Radio Outlet price seems a little high, does other clip work, without mod? Which mail order has better price on Standard accessories?

I don't have much money for other accessories now, but I don't mind if other people have good recommendations on some for this radio. Is there a review on this rig? How good is it compare to others? I have heard very good comments on the Standard C5608DA dualband mobile rig, but not very much on the HTs.

Funny, isn't it I wanted a review after I bought it (and no return policy). Yes, I think Standard has grown much better lately in their radios. I read some good comments on the net, just not a detailed review.

I'd like any comments on this rig, and especially the way to do any mods, including but not limited to extended RX, crossband repeat.

I have owned a Kenwood TH-21AT, a Yaesu FT-23 (Japanese model), and now use a Kenwood TH-215 (Japanese model).

Thanks in advanced,

Bye,

David

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+-----+
| In real life: David Tse          E-mail: tpang@sfu.ca (Internet) |
| In amateur radio: VE7MDT        Packet: VE7MDT@VE7UBC.#VANC.BC.CAN.NA |
| Snail Mail: P.O. Box 26052, Richmond B.C., V6Y 2B0, Canada. |
| Set-up: Amiga 3000/25, MAG MV-14S, AMaxII, ZyXEL 1496E, DeskJet+, HP48SX |
| Disclaimer: Anything here does not represent views of anyone except mine. |
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End of Ham-Equip Digest V93 #52
